

**A NEW SPECIES OF *OBLIVIA* AND A NEW COMBINATION IN
ELAPHANDRA FROM ECUADOR (ECLIPTINAE: HELIANTHEAE:
ASTERACEAE)**

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ABSTRACT

Oblivia ceronii is described as new from the Department of Napo in Ecuador, and *Aspilia retrofleza* is transferred to *Elaphandra*.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Heliantheae, Ecliptinae, *Oblivia*, *Elaphandra*, new species, new combinations

A continuing review of the Heliantheae for treatment of the Flora of Ecuador has shown the need to describe the following new species.

Oblivia ceronii H. Robinson, *spec. nov.* TYPE: ECUADOR. Napo: Canton Tena, Estación Biológica Jatun Sacha, Río Napo, 8 km al E de Misahuallí 1°04' S 77°36' W, 400 m, 11-14 abril 1989, C. Cerón 6411 (HOLOTYPE: US; Isotype: MO).

Plantae frutescentes volubiles indefinite elongatae; caules leniter costati strigillosi vel scabridi et minute puberuli in angulis ca. 90° ramulosi. Folia opposita, petiolis 0.4-2.2 cm longis; laminae chartaceae ovatae vel oblongo-ovatae plerumque 6-12 cm longae 2.0-4.5 cm latae base rotundatae vel obtusae margine subintegrae vel remote serrulatae apice acuminatae supra aliquantum nitidae sparse vel dense scabridulae in nervis majoribus densius subtus hebes scabrae non glandulo-punctatae, nervis subpinnatae vel leniter trinervatis, nervis secundariis validioribus vix vel non mediis foliorum attingentibus. Inflorescentiae anguste thyrsoidae, bracteis primariis foliiformibus, ramis lateralibus breviter pyramidalibus 5-7-capitulatis bracteis primariis brevioribus, pedunculis

1.5-7.0 mm longis scabridulis 1-3 bracteoliferis. Capitula heterogama; involucri late campanulata ca. 8 mm alta et lata; bractee involucri chartaceae ca. 35 ca. 4-seriatae ovatae vel lanceolatae 3-7 mm longae 1.2-1.5 mm latae, bracteis exterioribus 3-4 in apicem herbaceis breviter oblongis vel spathulatis 1.0-1.5 mm longis, bracteis interioribus viride-brunnescentibus margine pallidis apice acutis et sinuatis extus appresse puberulis; paleae bracteis interioribus similes ca. 7 mm longae. Flores radii fertiles ca. 9; corollae flavae ca. 6 mm longae, tubis ca. 2 mm longis glabris, laminis oblongis ca. 4 mm longas 1.2 mm latis breviter bilobatis subtus plerumque glabris apice penicillate pilosis, pilis strictis ad 0.5 mm longis. Flores disci bisexualis 40-45; corollae ca. 5.5 mm longae, tubis basilaribus ca. 1.5 mm longis glabris, faucibus ca. 3 mm longis glabris, lobis ca. 1 mm longis extus strigosis, pilis argutis usque ad 0.5 mm longis; thecae antherarum nigrae ca. 2 mm longae, appendices antherarum apicales pallidis ovatae ca. 0.3 mm longae non glanduliferae; rami stylorum extus non glanduliferi. Achenia obconica 4-5 mm longa glabra, alis ad 0.25 mm latis, aristae pappi in acheniis radi plerumque 3 interioribus ad 4 mm longae in acheniis disci 2 subaequales ca. 3 mm longae, squamis pappi lateralibus in acheniis disci connatis. Grana pollinis in diametro ca. 25 μ m.

The species was collected in a moist, tropical forest at 400 m elevation. The species is evidently related to *Oblivia simplex* (Badillo) H. Robinson (1990) of Venezuela in the comparatively weakly trinervate leaves, the presence of basal tubes on the ray corollas, and the larger numbers of disk florets. The present Ecuadorian species differs from *O. simplex* and is more like the widely distributed generic type *O. mikanioides* (Britton) Strother (1989) in the narrower thryoid, less shortly corymbiform inflorescence, the shorter and less leafy lateral branches that do not exceed the subtending leaves in length, and the smaller herbaceous appendages on the outer involucre bracts. The new species is distinct from both the other species of the genus by the long, stiff hairs on the tips of the corolla lobes.

The genus now has three acknowledged species of which only the type species, *Oblivia mikanioides* has the ray corolla limb mounted directly on the top of the ray achene.

A further new combination is needed in the genus *Elaphandra* for the treatment of the Flora of Ecuador. Eleven species have previously been placed in the genus (Strother 1991; Robinson 1992).

Elaphandra retroflexa (S.F. Blake) H. Robinson, *comb. nov.* BASIONYM:
Aspilula retrofleza S.F. Blake, Contrib. U.S. Nat. Herb. 22:618. 1924.

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